Use of Helicopters to Flush out Militants

*633 SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to use helicopter gunships of the Indian Air Force on a regular basis to demolish terrorist hide-outs in mountain terrains and jungles of Jammu and Kashmir area; and

(b) if so, the success achieved by such drive so far to flush out militants?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:)(a) and (b) Helicopters were used in Doda District on 25th March 2000, during a combined operation of Army and the Air Force. The operation was a success. Further use of helicopters in a gunship role in J&K would depend on the tactical situation.

Appropriate steps continue to be taken to tackle the terrorists in J&K.

Pending Power Plants in A.P.

*634. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether two proposals for setting up power plants in the Andhra Pradesh by Private sectors are pending clearance from the Central Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken for early clearance to solve the power shortage problems;

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) Presently, two proposals for private sector power projects in the Stale of Andhra Pradesh, the 520 MW Krishnapatnam "A' power project of M/s GVK Power Krishnapatnam Limited and the 240 MW Jegurupadu Phase-II project of M/s GVK India Ltd. stand returned by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) due non tieing up of